

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section
5 2-3.148 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.148 new)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 16, 2010)

8 Sec. 2-3.148. Textbook weight; task force.

9 (a) The State Board of Education shall create a task force
10 to study the impact of carrying and transporting student
11 textbooks and textbook weight on the health of Illinois
12 students within the kindergarten through grade 12 school
13 environment and to make recommendations as to any alternatives
14 that may exist or could be created to the standard textbook
15 format.

16 (b) The task force shall examine without limitation the
17 following issues:

18 (1) the types, prevalence, and level of severity of
19 injuries associated with the carrying or transportation of
20 textbooks or multiple textbooks, including textbook
21 weight; and

22 (2) the development of alternative textbook formats,
23 including various digital formats, and any possible

1 adaptation of existing standard print textbooks that would
2 be beneficial to the health of Illinois pupils.

3 (c) The task force shall consist of 9 members as follows:

4 (1) one person appointed by the Chairperson of the
5 State Board of Education, who shall serve as chairperson of
6 the task force;

7 (2) one member appointed by the President of the Senate
8 and one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
9 Senate;

10 (3) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
11 Representatives and one member appointed by the Minority
12 Leader of the House of Representatives;

13 (4) one member appointed by the Director of Public
14 Health;

15 (5) one member appointed by a statewide association
16 representing parents and teachers;

17 (6) one member appointed by an association
18 representing physicians; and

19 (7) one member appointed by the Governor who shall be a
20 parent of a student currently enrolled in an Illinois
21 public elementary or secondary school.

22 Members appointed by the legislative leaders shall be
23 appointed for the duration of the task force. In the event of a
24 vacancy, the appointment to fill the vacancy shall be made by
25 the legislative leader of the same chamber and party as the
26 person who made the original appointment.

1 (d) The task force may begin to conduct business upon the
2 appointment of a majority of members.

3 (e) The State Board of Education shall be the agency
4 responsible for providing staff and administrative support to
5 the task force.

6 (f) Members of the task force shall receive no compensation
7 for their participation, but may be reimbursed by the State
8 Board of Education for expenses in connection with their
9 participation, including travel, if funds are available.

10 (g) The task force shall submit a final report of its
11 findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General
12 Assembly on or before January 15, 2010. The task force may
13 submit other reports as it deems appropriate.

14 (h) The task force is abolished on January 16, 2010. This
15 Section is repealed on January 16, 2010.

16 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
17 becoming law.